



Supreme Court of Illinois

April 19, 2018

JUSTICE RITA GARMAN ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF JUDICIAL SCREENING COMMITTEE TO FILL ELEVENTH CIRCUIT VACANCY

Illinois Supreme Court Justice Rita B. Garman announced today the formation of a judicial screening committee for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.

The screening committee was formed for the purpose of assessing the qualifications of those persons who have applied for appointment to the Office of Judge of the Circuit Court for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit created by the retirement of Judge Robert L. Freitag on July 6, 2018. Under the Illinois constitution, the vacancy will be filled by Supreme Court appointment.

After the committee has received public input, gathered information, and interviewed each of the applicants, it will report its findings to the Illinois Supreme Court, which will make the appointment from among those applicants who have been screened by the committee. The person appointed will serve as a judge of the Circuit Court until the general election to be held in November 2020.

The screening committee consists of seven persons who reside in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit. Four of the committee members are nonlawyers and three are lawyers.

The nonlawyer members of the committee are Dr. Ron Gifford, Jerome Maddox, Tony Morstatter, and Barbara Nathan, all of Bloomington.

The lawyer members of the committee include Darrell Hartweg, Joshua Rinker, and Todd Roseberry of Bloomington.

Barbara Nathan will serve as chairperson of the committee.

Applicants who are to be considered for appointment to the judgeship, and will be screened by the committee are Associate Judge David Butler, State's Attorney Jason Chambers, attorney Joseph Foley and attorney John Heil.

Members of the public are invited to submit comments concerning the applicants by writing to Eleventh Judicial Screening Committee, Law & Justice Center Room #507, c/o William Scanlon, 104 W. Front Street, Bloomington, IL 61701. Comments should be received by the committee before May 11, 2018. All comments will be held in the strictest confidence by the committee and the court.

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit includes Ford, Livingston, Logan, McLean, and Woodford counties.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Chris Bonjean, Communications Director to the Illinois Supreme Court at 312.793.2323 or cbonjean@illinoiscourts.gov.)